

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
The EA Program Fall Technical Assistance Seminar:  
What is Community Based Participatory Research?  
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# ENGAGING PARTNERS IN RESEARCH

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# OBJECTIVES

PROJECTS

LESSONS LEARNED

RECOMMENDATIONS



# GROWING LITERATURE ON CBPR

- Institute of Medicine Report.
- Special Issues/Sections of Journals.
- National Institutes of Health Interagency Work Group on CBPR.
- Funding Opportunities through agencies such as National Institutes of Health, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, Robert Wood Johnson, W.K. Kellogg.



# DEFINITION

Program " Collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community with the aim of combining knowledge and action for social change to improve community health and eliminate health disparities."

-- W.K. Kellogg Community Scholar's (2001)



# Partnering Research Projects



# Why Partner?

- Help set priorities including health concerns.
  - Find solutions to a community health problem.
  - Promote trust.
  - Translate evidence to practice.
  - Promote community capacity building.
  - Use community skills to address goals and objectives.
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- The opportunity...for communities and science to work
    - in tandem to ensure a more balanced set of political, social, economic, and cultural priorities, which satisfy the demands of both scientific research and communities at higher risk.
- John Hatch et al., 1993



# Public Health Problems in Mississippi

Mississippi ranks poorly on many health indicators ...

- No. 1 in deaths from heart disease
  - No. 1 in diabetes
  - No. 1 in obesity
  - No. 2 in hospitalizations and ER visits
  - No. 5 in the percent of population without health insurance
- (Source: Healthy People 2010)



# Health Disparities in African Americans in Mississippi

... a significantly higher risk of:

- premature death...
- developing major chronic disease ...
- experiencing poorer health care ...

*"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhumane"*

--The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Chicago, March 25, 1966





# Mission

**To address and eliminate the health inequalities affecting minorities through innovative programs in ....**

- community outreach and information sharing;
- research on health disparities;
- education;
- career development training.



# Vision

To contribute to understanding and addressing health disparities, problems and needs, especially in Mississippi.



# Goals

- Strengthen university-community ties.
- Understand community needs.
- Expand minority health research and education.
- Encourage students to participate in research projects and enter careers in minority health.
- Enhance dissemination and application of research.



# Projects

- Community Outreach
- Research
  - Cancer
  - CVD
  - Obesity
  - Translational
  - Lead Poisoning
  - Katrina
  - HIV/AIDS (Health Literacy)
- Pilot Projects
- Education
- Training

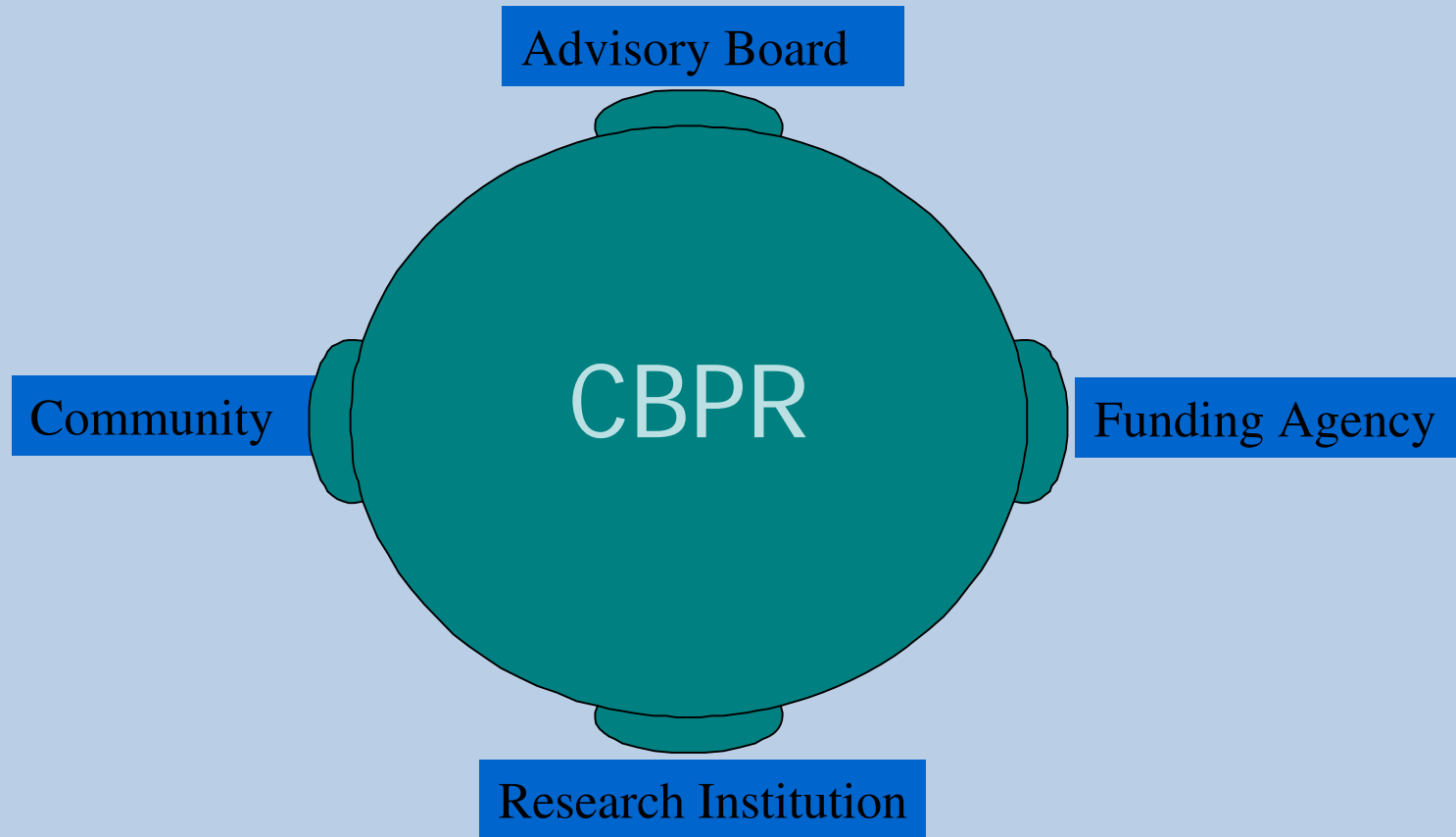


# Activities

- Community-based Participatory Research
- “Community Health Leadership Forum”
- Research Symposium
- Summer Research Career Development Institute
  - University of Pittsburgh
- “Eliminating Health Disparities Conference”
- Workshops
  - Research Skills Workshop
  - GIS
  - SAS
  - Grant Writing
  - Pyramid to Success
  - HIV/AIDS Training
  - Cultural Sensitivity



# Partnership Table



# FUNDING AGENT

For Example --

National Institutes of Health  
CDC  
Other Programs, Foundations



# Community

Grass Root Activist  
Concerned Citizen  
Church  
School System  
Business  
Government  
Industry  
Etc.





# Advisory Board Members

Funding Opportunities

Grant writing

Identify procedures and policies



# University

Investigators with Management Experience

Investigators with Scientific Research Experience

Epidemiologist

Biostatistician/Evaluator

Community Outreach Specialist

Graduate Students



# PROCESS

- Set Priorities.
  - Identify university and community strengths and challenges.
  - Discuss all stages of activities with partners.
  - Establish Infrastructure.
- Selection of Research Question.
- Funding Opportunities.
- Proposal Development.
- Study Design and Methods.
- Intervention Development, Implementation.
- Recruitment and Retention.
- Data Collection
- Evaluation and Interpretation of Findings.
- Dissemination of Findings.
- Establish Ongoing Long-term Relationship.



# Most Significant Accomplishments

- Community Based Participatory Research.
- Developed the “Scientific Road Map to Eliminate Health Disparities in Mississippi.”
- Epidemiology and Health Services
  - - Institute of Epidemiology and Health Services Research.
  - - National Center for Biodefense Communications.
- Minority Health
  - Center of Excellence in Minority Health.
- State-of-the-Art Surveillance Laboratory.
- Community and University Resources.



# Most Significant Lessons Learned

- Takes time and energy to build trust, bridge cultural gaps and develop lasting relationships.
- Establish MOUs in the beginning stages (e.g., distribution of funds).
- Develop a balance in responsibilities among partners.



# Most Significant Lessons Learned

Jointly –

- Define collaborative and equitable partnership.
- Set goals and objectives.
- Identify university and community strengths and challenges.
- Identify partners who represent the community.
- Obtain support and involve key community persons.
- Establish procedures for dissemination.
- Construct questionnaires.

Sustainable goals –

Best achieved by involving the community.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

To Engage in Effective Partnership --

- Identify and address ethnic, cultural, and social factors.
- Design study to community's culture.
  - Design study to community's need.
  - Design study on social and structural determinants of health.
- Include participants in all aspects of study design, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination.
- Include partners to disseminate all findings.
- Development a long-term commitment (follow-up).



# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build on strengths and resources within the community.
- Facilitate partnership for all stages of the Project.
- Empower communities to be players ('Active').








“Love thy neighbor.”





“Science looks for truth, practice looks for what works. What works is true, and what is true works.”

-- Guy Stewart, 1963

